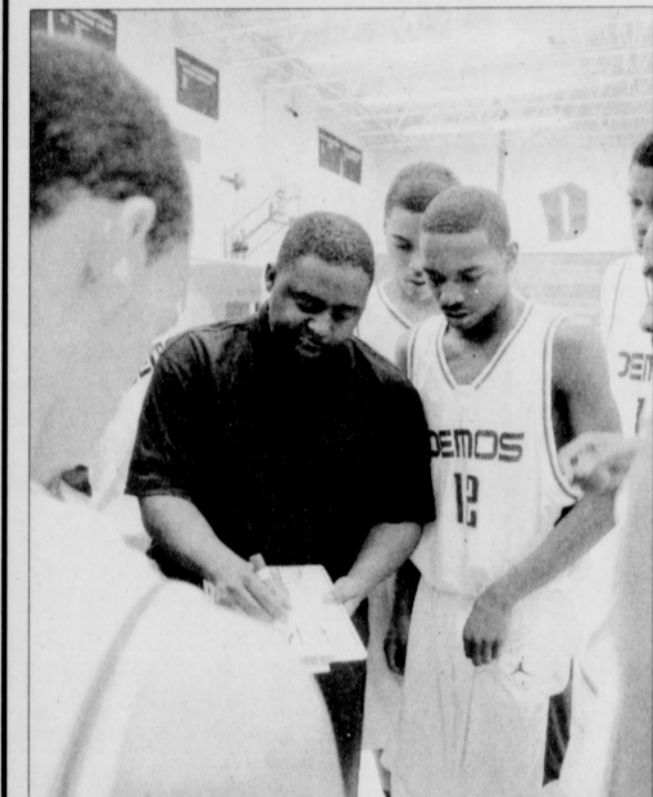


# SPORTS



Jefferson Girls Head Coach Michael Bontemps discusses the game plan with his team. Jeff slipped past Clackamas 57 to 52 Saturday, to remain undefeated at 2-0.

PHOTOS BY JAMES P. HILL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Jefferson Boys Coach Marshall Haskins shows his Demos a play on his clipboard. Jefferson defeated Lincoln 92 to 45 Saturday, improving to 2-0.

## High School Basketball Scores

**Boys Friday Games**  
 Jefferson 69, Canby 55  
 Benson 82, South Salem 64  
 Wilson 63, West Salem 26  
 Sunset 55, Grant 49

**Boys - Saturday Game**  
 Jefferson 92, Lincoln 45  
**Top scorers:** Lincoln - Harry Berendsen, 6; Rei Jensen, 6  
 Jefferson - Terrence Jones, 23; T. White, 19; Terrence Ross, 12  
*The Democrats are now 2-0 on the season, while Lincoln is 1-3. Jefferson Head Coach/Athletic Director Marshall Haskins says, "We're going to be exciting. We're going to have a chance to win state, and we'll get all our kids to college."*

**Girls - Saturday Game**  
 Jefferson 57, Clackamas 52  
**Top scores:** Jefferson - Nyasha Sims, 19; Janita Badon, 14; Ariel Reynolds, 10  
*The Democrats are now 2-0 on the season. Jefferson Girls Head Coach Michael Bontemps says, "It's going to be one game at a time. My pre-season schedule against good teams should prepare us for the season."*

**Girls - Friday Game**  
 The Dalles 50, Marshall 42

## Kent Gets the Most Out of Ducks Team

U of O program floats on golden pond

BY JAMES P. HILL  
 SPORTS COLUMNIST

University of Oregon Head Men's Basketball Coach Ernie Kent's plan of building a winning program is coming to fruition.

Kent's love for Ducks basketball began back in 1974 as a player. Over three seasons on the court, his team went 74-77 and Kent learned how to win Pac 10 games at Mac Court. Fast forward 20 years and Kent became the first African-American head coach in the history of the University of Oregon Athletics when he was named to the post April 10, 1997.

"First and foremost I'm a Duck. This is my school, Oregon. I love the state, I love the school, I love the community," Kent said.

Saturday, Kent's Ducks defeated Utah 75 to 64 at the Rose Garden in Portland during the 10th-annual Pape Jam, improving the team's current record to 7-1.

At the post-game press conference, Kent described his players as quality student-athletes. "The fact that those kids are graduating not only on time, they're graduating ahead of schedule. That's the thing that's probably my proudest moment of being here," Kent said.

Since 1997, Kent has landed several blue-chip recruits from all across the nation to play in Eugene.

"When we lost to Florida last year in the Elite Eight, literally our assistant Kenny Payne's cell phone started ringing," Kent said, "Kids were saying I've changed my mind I want to come to Oregon and play."

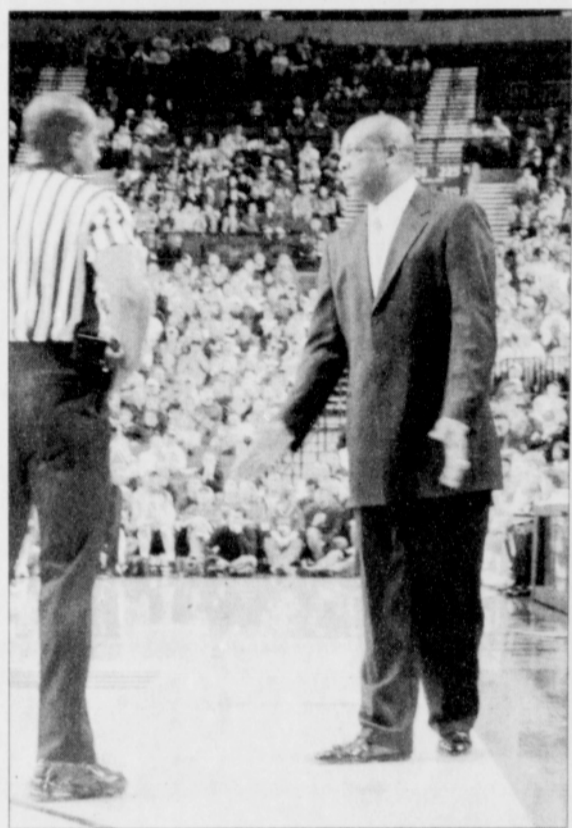


PHOTO BY JAMES P. HILL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
 Oregon Head Coach Ernie Kent works the sidelines Saturday in the Rose Garden as the 16th-ranked Ducks move up to 7-1 by beating the Utah Utes, 75 to 64.

Kent said Oregon basketball is a style of play.

"I think its Mac Court and that building. It's our success of getting guys into the NBA. It's our graduation rates," he said.

## Vick Sentenced for Dog Fights, Deaths

NFL star gets harsher sentence

(AP)--Michael Vick was sentenced to prison Monday for running a dogfighting operation and will stay there longer than two co-defendants, up to 23 months, because he lied about his involvement when he was supposed to be coming clean to the judge who would decide his fate.



Michael Vick

The disgraced NFL star received a harsher sentence than the others in the federal conspiracy case because of "less than truthful" statements about killing pit bulls.

Vick said he accepted responsibility for his actions, but U.S. District Judge Henry E. Hudson said he wasn't so sure.

"I'm not convinced you've fully accepted responsibility," Hudson told Vick, who arrived in court wearing the black-and-white striped prison uniform he was issued when he voluntarily surrendered Nov. 19 to begin serving his sentence early.

Despite the early surrender, a public apology and participation in an animal sensitivity training course, Vick was denied an "acceptance of responsibility" credit that would have reduced his sentence. Federal prosecutors opposed awarding Vick the credit.

Dogs that did not perform up to expectations were killed by electrocution, hanging, drowning and other violent means by the dog-fighting ring. Hudson said evidence, including statements by the co-defendants, showed Vick was more directly involved than he admitted. Hudson also mentioned that Vick had been deceptive on a polygraph test. Though that evidence was not admissible in court, the results were discussed.

"He did more than fund it," prosecutor Michael Gill said, referring to the "Bad Newz Kennels" dog-fighting operation. "He was in this

thing up to his neck with the other defendants."

The judge agreed. "You were instrumental in promoting, funding and facilitating this cruel and inhumane sporting activity," he said.

Flanked by two defense attorneys, Vick spoke softly as he acknowledged using "poor judgment" and added, "I'm willing to deal with the consequences and accept responsibility for my actions."

Vick apologized to the court and his family members, who along with other supporters occupied most of two rows in the packed courtroom. Before the hearing started, Michael Vick's brother, Marcus Vick, draped his right arm around their mother and comforted her as she wept.

"You need to apologize to the millions of young people who looked up to you," Hudson said sternly, reminding Vick of the fans he singled out when he pleaded guilty in August.

"Yes, sir," Vick answered. Although there is no parole in the federal system, with time off for good behavior Vick could be released in the summer of 2009.

"This was an efficient, professional, and thorough investigation that well exposed a seamy side of our society," U.S. Attorney Chuck Rosenberg said in a statement. "I trust Mr. Vick learned important lessons and that his admission of guilt will speed his rehabilitation."

Falcons owner Arthur Blank called the sentencing another step in Vick's "legal journey."

"This is a difficult day for Michael's family and for a lot of us, including many of our players and fans who have been emotionally invested in Michael over the years," Blank said. "We sincerely hope that Michael will use this time to continue to focus his efforts on making positive changes in his life, and we wish him well in that regard."

Vick was suspended without pay by the NFL and lost all his lucrative endorsement deals. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell was asked

after Monday's ruling if Vick should play again.

"That's a determination we'll make later on," he said from a legislative hearing in Austin,

Texas involving the NFL Network. "As I said earlier when we suspended him indefinitely, we would evaluate that when the legal process was closed."



Supporters of Michael Vick hold signs and sing as they line up across the street from Federal Court prior to the sentencing of the Atlanta Falcons quarterback on dogfighting charges. (AP photo)

## Saturday Youth Basketball League

Through Portland Parks and Recreations

Any 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys interested in being involved in this **FREE** event, please contact David Miller, 503-933-1763, or Dashun Montgomery 503-823-4223.

We provide sponsorship and jerseys for the kids.

League starts January 12, 2007.

Look forward to hearing from you!

Tryouts: December 11<sup>th</sup>  
 6:50 p.m. — 7:40 p.m.  
 Vernon Elementary School  
 2044 N.E. Killingsworth.

Sponsored by Black Citizen's Coalition of Portland Neighborhoods



Thanks Portland Community!!!

22 Years on the Corner  
 Thanks Chuck Hinton  
 Portland Style BBQ

\* Let Us Cater Your Xmas Party \*

Catering & Take-Out

Our Specialty: Real Hickory Smoked Bar-B-Q

Wayne Cannon - Proprietor  
 Mon.-Thu. 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m. • Fri.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-11:00 p.m. • Sun. 1:00-7:00 p.m.  
 5410 N.E. 33rd 503-288-3836

SALE!



Boss Hogg Christmas Tree Lot

XMAS TREES

Every Doug Fir 5-7 ft. -- \$20.00  
 Every Nobel Fir 5-7 ft. -- \$30.00

6500 NE MLK Jr. Blvd.  
 On the corner of MLK Jr. & Rosa Park Blvd.